

SPECIFICATION

DISPLAY CHARACTERISTICS RECOGNITION APPARATUS, DISPLAY
CHARACTERISTICS RECOGNITION PROGRAM STORAGE MEDIUM,
5 COMPUTER SYSTEM, DISPLAY CHARACTERISTICS ADJUSTING
APPARATUS AND DISPLAY CHARACTERISTICS ADJUSTING PROGRAM
STORAGE MEDIUM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a display characteristics recognition apparatus for determining display characteristics of a display unit, a display characteristics recognition program storage medium storing a display characteristics recognition program which causes a computer system to operate as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus, a computer system operative as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus, a display characteristics adjusting apparatus for adjusting display characteristics of the display unit, a display characteristics adjusting program storage medium storing a display characteristics adjusting program which causes a computer system to operate as such a display characteristics adjusting apparatus, and a computer system operative as such a display characteristics adjusting apparatus.

Description of the Related Art

Recently, in view of the fact that a high performance personal computer comes into wide use and the cost of image input and output units, such as a scanner and a color printer, is decreased, there is increased an 5 opportunity that a color image is dealt with in the form of a home use as well as a business use. As an opportunity of processing a color image for a home use is increased, a problem of a color reproduction quality arises.

Specifically, there is associated with such a problem that 10 it is difficult to reproduce a color of an image on the same basis among images such as an original image, a display image on a display, and a print image of a printer. The reason why it is so is that different color input and output units such as a display unit, a printer and a 15 scanner are mutually different in their color developing mechanism and color characteristics of color reproduction areas and the like.

As a technology of adjusting a color in appearance for those different color input and output units, there is 20 known a color management system (CMS). The use of the CMS makes it possible to establish a matching of a color in appearance between an image read through a scanner and an image displayed on a display, and also establish a matching of a color in appearance between an image formed through 25 printing by a printer and an image read through a scanner or an image displayed on a display. Thus, the use of the CMS makes it possible to establish a system in which a user

does not feel that something is wrong with an image.

Today, as in ICM 1.0 (Image Color Matching) of Windows 95 and ColorSync 2.0 of Macintosh, which are registered trade mark, the CMS is incorporated in the 5 operating system (OS) level. An offer of a predetermined type of device profile used in ICM 1.0 or ColorSync 2.0 to a user by a maker of color input and output units makes it possible that the user obtains an image with which the user does not feel something is wrong, even between images of 10 different devices, for example, a displayed image on a display and a printed image by a printer. The device profile of ICM 1.0 and ColorSync 2.0 is based on the ICC (International Color Consortium) profile advocated by the ICC. Consequently, an offer of the device profile 15 according to the specification of the ICC by a maker of color input and output units makes it possible that both the users of the Windows environment and the Macintosh environment obtain an image with which both the users do not feel something is wrong, even between images of 20 different devices. Thus, it is possible to use various color input and output units without something wrong with a color in appearance. Hereinafter, there will be described a case where the CMS is used for an output unit.

Currently, in the event that the CMS is used in a 25 computer environment, it is general that color display characteristics of an output unit is grasped, and an ICC profile including information indicative of the color

display characteristics is adopted.

Fig. 1 is a schematic diagram of an ICC profile.

In the ICC profile, all the necessary data are described by tags. The ICC profile is divided into three parts of a profile header 1 for storing information as to the profile per se such as a file size and a making out date, information indicative of kinds of objective machines (output units), a tagged element data 2 storing information indicative of color display characteristics of an output unit, and a tag table 3 indicative of stored information and storage address of the stored information in the tagged element data 2. The profile header 1 is a fixed length of data. The tagged element data 2 is a variable length of data. The tag table 3 is a variable length of data of $(4 + 12n)$ bytes including data 3a representative of the number of tags (n) stored in the tagged element data 2, and data 3b, 3c and 3d representative of an identifier, a storage address, a size on each of n pieces of tag, respectively, each of the data 3b, 3c and 3d consisting of 4 bytes.

In the tagged element data 2, a CIEXYZ value of white is stored, as standard white information of the output unit, in wtpt tag with a standardized value in which D50 is adopted as a standard light source. As the standard white information of the output unit, there is known a color temperature indicating white in accordance with a blackbody radiation other than the CIEXYZ value of white. Here, the CIEXYZ value of white is stored in the tagged

element data 2. It is possible to perform a transformation between the CIEXYZ value of white and the color temperature in accordance with the conventional scheme. In the following explanation, it happens that the CIEXYZ value of 5 white and the color temperature are used without distinction.

In the tagged element data 2, CIEXYZ values of red, green and blue are stored, as information indicative of a range of color capable of reproduction by the output unit, 10 in rXYZ tag, gXYZ tag and bXYZ tag, respectively, with a standardized value in which D50 is adopted as a standard light source.

Further, in the tagged element data 2, input-output characteristics (γ -characteristics) of the output 15 unit of red, green and blue are stored, as information indicative of γ -characteristics, in rTRC tag, gTRC tag and bTRC tag, respectively, and in general, gradation values are stored where a range between an input 0 and the maximum input is divided into n equal parts.

20 In this manner, it is general that the tagged element data 2 of the ICC profile of the display unit stores seven sorts of information as mentioned above. Those sorts of information are obtained through such a manner that a specific color image data is inputted to a 25 display or the like so that a color image is displayed, and the color is measured through the use of a dedicated measuring apparatus (a color measuring apparatus).

The ICC profiler is provided nowadays from a color equipment maker to a user in conjunction with a product. Since a color equipment is associated with a difference in display due to a difference among types of the equipment per se and a usage environment, the ICC profile provided by a maker does not always have characteristics of the equipment used by the user. For example, in case of a display, it often happens that a difference in color display characteristics occurs owing to a production lot and a user sets up a display state of a display by a regulatory function (contrast, brightness, RGB balance, color temperature setting) so as to meet the user's desire, and thus usually, the display profile provided by a maker is not suitable for a display which is actually used by a user. In other words, in the CMS, it is difficult to implement a fine color matching with another color equipment. In order to implement a fine color matching, there is a need that a display of a user is measured to collect information data for color display characteristics of the display so that the profile is produced in accordance with the collected information data. However, as mentioned above, for a measurement of a display there is a need to prepare a dedicated measuring apparatus. Such a dedicated measuring apparatus is expensive and thus it is generally that a user has no such measuring apparatus. For this reason, generally, a user cannot produce an ICC profile through a determination of display characteristics

of a display unit, and cannot regulate the display characteristics of the display unit.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In view of the foregoing, it is an object of the present invention to provide a display characteristics recognition apparatus capable of determining display characteristics of a display unit even for a general user having no color measuring apparatus as mentioned above, a display characteristics recognition program storage medium storing a display characteristics recognition program which causes a computer system to operate as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus, a computer system operative as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus, a display characteristics adjusting apparatus capable of adjusting display characteristics of the display unit even for a general user having no color measuring apparatus as mentioned above, a display characteristics adjusting program storage medium storing a display characteristics adjusting program which causes a computer system to operate as such a display characteristics adjusting apparatus, and a computer system operative as such a display characteristics adjusting apparatus.

To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a display characteristics recognition apparatus comprising:

25 signal output means connected to a display unit

for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit, said signal output means outputting a color chart 5 signal representative of a monochrome figure to said display unit;

color name input means for entering a name of a color displayed on said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted from said signal output means;

10 and

display characteristics identification means for determining display characteristics of said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted from said signal output means and the name of the color entered 15 through said color name input means.

Here, the "monochrome figure" is not restricted to the figure of a primary color according to a color developing principle of a display unit. Anyone is acceptable, as the "monochrome figure", which is a single 20 color of figure on a visual basis.

According to the display characteristics recognition apparatus of the present invention, display characteristics is determined by the display characteristics identification means when a user enters a name of a color through the color name input means. Thus 25 it is possible for a general user, who has no dedicated color measuring apparatus, to determine display

characteristics.

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In the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is acceptable that said display characteristics identification means determines, as the display characteristics, a relationship between a signal representative of a white image and a color of an image displayed on said display unit in accordance with the signal. In such a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention, it is preferable that said display unit is selectively set up to anyone of a plurality of display characteristics, and said display characteristics identification means determines display characteristics to which said display unit is now set up.

A relationship between a signal representative of a white image and a color of an image displayed on said display unit in accordance with the signal is indexed, for example, with a temperature in accordance with a blackbody radiation, and the temperature is referred to as a color temperature. It is general that the color temperature of a display unit is selectively set up from among typical color temperatures, for example, 5000K, 6500K, 9300K. And as to accuracy of a decision of the color temperature, in many cases, it is sufficient that it can be determined as to whether the color temperature set up on the display matches with the actual color temperature. Therefore, it is

possible to determine display characteristics simply and exactly through a decision of the color temperature as to which a color temperature is set up of those typical color temperatures.

5 In the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is acceptable that said display unit is a display in which an image is displayed through emission of light, and

10 said display characteristics identification means determines, as the display characteristics, luminance of said display.

15 Further, in the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is preferable that said signal output means outputs such a color chart signal that a color of an adjacent area as to colors adjacent to one another on a chromaticity diagram of a plurality of colors perceived as mutually different colors in name is displayed in 20 chromaticity according to display characteristics.

25 The color displayed on the display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted from the signal output means is great in accuracy of display characteristics determined on the basis of a name of a color, since variation of a color to variation of display characteristics is extremely sensitive for human's visual sensation, which will be described later in details.

Further, in the display characteristics
recognition apparatus according to the present invention as
mentioned above, it is preferable that said color name
input means enters a name of a color selected from among a
5 plurality of colors perceived as mutually different colors
in name.

According to the above-mentioned preferable
display characteristics recognition apparatus, the number
of choices for a name of a color to be inputted to the
10 color name input means is reduced.

Furthermore, in the display characteristics
recognition apparatus according to the present invention as
mentioned above, it is preferable that said signal output
means outputs a plurality of color chart signals each
15 representative of a monochrome figure to said display unit;

said color name input means enters a name of a
color of each of a plurality of monochrome figures; and
said display characteristics identification means
determines display characteristics of said display unit in
20 accordance with the plurality of color chart signals
outputted from said signal output means and the plurality
of names of the color entered through said color name input
means. In the display characteristics recognition
apparatus, it is preferable that said signal output means
25 outputs one of the plurality of color chart signals, and
thereafter outputs, of the plurality of color chart signals,
a color chart signal according to the name entered through

5 said color name input means to said display unit.

According to such a preferable display characteristics recognition apparatus, display characteristics is determined in accordance with a plurality of color chart signals and a plurality of names of color. Thus, it is possible to determine display characteristics with greater accuracy.

10 Still furthermore, in the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is preferable that said signal output means outputs the color chart signal to said display unit, and in addition outputs to said display unit a signal causing black to be displayed around the monochrome figure displayed on said display unit according to the color chart signal.

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And it is preferable that said signal output means outputs the color chart signal to said display unit, and in addition outputs to said display unit a signal causing gray to be displayed around the monochrome figure displayed on said display unit according to the color chart signal and further causing black to be displayed around the gray.

20 According to such a preferable display characteristics recognition apparatus, an achromatic color is displayed around the monochrome figure displayed on said display unit. Thus, a pure color of the monochrome figure is perceived by a user and the name of the color is entered, and thereby determining display characteristics with great

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accuracy. Further, for example, as in a liquid crystal display, in the event that there is a need to avoid leaked light from the periphery of the monochrome figure, it is preferable that black is displayed around the monochrome figure. As will be described later, in the event that there is a need to unify a mode of color appearance to a surface color mode, it is preferable that gray is displayed around the monochrome figure.

In the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is acceptable that said signal output means outputs a series of color chart signals such that a series of colors in adjacent areas for two sorts of colors adjacent to one another on a chromaticity diagram are displayed, and

said color name input means selects a color corresponding to a boundary of the two sorts of colors from among the displayed series of colors.

Further in the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is preferable that said display characteristics recognition apparatus further comprises profile producing means for generating data representative of display characteristics determined by said display characteristics identification means in a predetermined format to produce a profile representative of characteristics as to display of an image by said display unit including the data.

Furthermore, in the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention as mentioned above, it is preferable that said display characteristics recognition apparatus further comprises:

5 profile storage means for storing various sorts of profiles each representative of characteristics as to display of an image by a display unit including data indicative of various display characteristics in a common format; and

10 profile selection means for selecting one profile from among the various sorts of profiles stored in said profile storage means in accordance with the display characteristics determined by said display characteristics identification means.

15 According to the display characteristics recognition apparatus having the profile producing means and the profile selection means, there is determined a profile suitable for the display unit. Thus, it is possible to implement by the CMS matching between
20 appearance of color displayed on the display unit and appearance of color displayed on another display unit.

To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a display characteristics recognition program storage medium storing a display characteristics recognition program comprising:

signal output means connected to a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said

display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit, said signal output means outputting a color chart signal representative of a monochrome figure to said display unit;

color name input means for entering a name of a color displayed on said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted from said signal output means; and

display characteristics identification means for determining display characteristics of said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted from said signal output means and the name of the color entered through said color name input means.

To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a first computer system comprising:

a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit;

a main frame unit for outputting to said display unit a color chart signal representative of a monochrome figure and color name signals, which are representative of a plurality of color names, respectively; and

input unit for entering a color name selected from among said plurality of color names to said main frame unit

in accordance with an operation,

wherein said main frame unit determines display characteristics of said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted toward said display unit and
5 the color name entered through said input unit.

To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a second computer system comprising:

10 a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit;

15 a main frame unit for outputting to said display unit a series of color chart signals such that a series of colors in adjacent areas for two sorts of colors adjacent to one another on a chromaticity diagram are displayed; and

input unit for entering a color corresponding to a boundary of the two sorts of colors, which is selected from among the series of colors displayed on said display unit,
20 to said main frame unit in accordance with an operation,

wherein said main frame unit determines display characteristics of said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted toward said display unit and the color entered through said input unit.

25 In the second computer system, it is preferable that said main frame unit outputs to said display unit the series of color chart signals, and in addition a message

signal representative of a message inquiring as to from which color of the series of colors displayed on said display unit an operator visually identifies it as a color of a specified color name.

5 To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a third computer system comprising:

a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying on a 10 luminous display basis the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit;

a main frame unit for outputting to said display unit color chart signals representative of a plurality of 15 monochrome figures associated with mutually different luminance of said display unit, each of the plurality of monochrome figures being displayed with a color of a specified color name under an associated luminance; and

20 input unit for selectively entering a monochrome figure displayed with a color of the specified color name of the plurality of monochrome figures displayed on said display unit, to said main frame unit in accordance with an operation,

25 wherein said main frame unit determines luminance of said display unit in accordance with the color chart signal outputted toward said display unit and the monochrome figure entered through said input unit.

In the third computer system, it is preferable that said main frame unit outputs color chart signals representative of a plurality of monochrome figures associated with mutually different luminance of said display unit, each of the plurality of monochrome figures being displayed with such a color that persons of a predetermined ratio and up recognize it as the color of the specified color name under an associated luminance.

Further, to achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a display characteristics adjusting apparatus for adjusting display characteristics of a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit, said display characteristics adjusting apparatus comprising:

signal output means for outputting to said display unit such a color chart signal that a color belonging to an adjacent area as to colors adjacent to one another on a chromaticity diagram of a plurality of colors perceived as mutually different colors in name is displayed on said display unit in accordance with display characteristics of said display unit.

According to the display characteristics adjusting apparatus of the present invention as mentioned above, a color displayed on a display unit in accordance with the color chart signal can be adjusted suitably in display

characteristics using the variation of color as a criterion, since variation of a color to variation of display characteristics is extremely sensitive for human's visual sensation, which will be described later in details.

5 Furthermore, to achieve the above-mentioned objects, the present invention provides a display characteristics adjusting program storage medium storing a display characteristics adjusting program incorporated into a computer system, said display characteristics adjusting 10 program causing said computer system to operate a display characteristics adjusting apparatus for adjusting display characteristics of a display unit for displaying an image according to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and 15 display characteristics of said display unit, said display characteristics adjusting program comprising:

signal output means for outputting to said display unit such a color chart signal that a color belonging to an adjacent area as to colors adjacent to one another on a 20 chromaticity diagram of a plurality of colors perceived as mutually different colors in name is displayed on said display unit in accordance with display characteristics of said display unit.

To achieve the above-mentioned objects, the 25 present invention provides a fourth computer system comprising:

a display unit for displaying an image according

to a signal entered, said display unit displaying the image with a color according to both the signal and display characteristics of said display unit;

5 adjusting means for adjusting display characteristics of said display unit in accordance with an operation; and

10 a main frame unit for outputting to said display unit such a color chart signal that a color belonging to an adjacent area as to colors adjacent to one another on a chromaticity diagram of a plurality of colors perceived as mutually different colors in name is displayed on said display unit in accordance with display characteristics of said display unit.

15 Incidentally, in the display characteristics recognition apparatus and the display characteristics adjusting apparatus, and the display characteristics recognition program and the display characteristics adjusting program of the present invention, the same name such as signal output means is applied to the structural element for those apparatus and programs. In case of the display characteristics recognition apparatus and the display characteristics adjusting apparatus, it indicates a combination of the software and the hardware having such a function. On the other hand, in case of the display characteristics recognition program and the display characteristics adjusting program, it indicates only the software having such function.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a schematic diagram of an ICC profile.

5 Fig. 2 is a chromaticity diagram showing a distribution of colors which are perceived by a human.

Fig. 3(A) is an xy-chromaticity diagram showing a measurement result of a display color, and Fig. 3(B) is a chromaticity diagram of CIELAB space.

10 Fig. 4 is a view showing a first embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a functional block diagram of a display characteristics recognition apparatus (computer system).

15 Fig. 6 is a flowchart useful for understanding an operating procedure of the first embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

Fig. 7 is a view showing a display screen displayed on a display in a step S101 in Fig. 6.

20 Fig. 8 is a view showing a state that a color chart is displayed on a display.

Fig. 9 is a view of a screen on which a series of color charts are displayed to select a color chart corresponding to the boundary.

25 Fig. 10(A) is a view showing a case where the periphery of the color chart is black, and Fig. 10(B) is a view showing a case where the periphery of the color chart

is gray.

Fig. 11 is an illustration useful for understanding an example of a procedure in which a color chart is selected to decide display characteristics.

5 Fig. 12 is a view showing images for discriminating γ characteristics.

Fig. 13 is a graph showing an example of input-output characteristics of a display.

10 Fig. 14 is a view showing a concrete example of an ICC profile.

Fig. 15 is a functional block diagram showing a second embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

15 Fig. 16 is a functional block diagram showing a third embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

20 Fig. 17 is a flowchart useful for understanding an operating procedure of the third embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

Fig. 18 is a view showing a state that a color chart is displayed in the third embodiment.

25 Fig. 19 is a view showing a state that a color chart is displayed by a display characteristics adjusting apparatus.

Fig. 20 is a view showing a display screen in a case where an adjustment is performed utilizing a software.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

First, prior to embodiments of the present invention, there will be described a principle of the present invention, hereinafter. It is noted that there will be described an example in a case where a display is used in a display unit.

Fig. 2 is a chromaticity diagram showing a distribution of colors which are perceived by a human.

10 The axis of abscissas and the axis of ordinates denote a so-called xy chromaticity value in which CIEXYZ value (X, Y, Z) is normalized with relational expressions of $x = X/(X + Y + Z)$, $y = Y/(X + Y + Z)$. In a case where lightness is not considered, one point on the chromaticity diagram denotes one color. A triangular domain 10 shown in the chromaticity diagram is an area of colors which can be reproduced by a display. Tops 10a, 10b and 10c of the triangle denote colors displayed by a display in the event that RGB values entered to the display are (0, 0, 255), (0, 255, 0), (255, 0, 0), respectively. A wide region 20 covering the triangular domain 10 is an area of colors which can be perceived by a human.

As one which is indicative of powers of perception of human for colors, there is known a perception method referred to as the categorical color perception. According to the categorical color perception, it is said that colors perceived by a human are perceived through a classification

of 11 to 13 colors or so regardless of a race, a region and nationality. Hereinafter, there will be explained by way of example a case where colors perceived by a human are perceived through a classification of 11 colors. 11 colors
5 designated by the categorical color perception are "white", "orange", "brown", "gray", "yellow", "purple", "pink", "red", "green", "blue" and "black". According to the chromaticity diagram shown in Fig. 2, the triangular domain 10 is partitioned in color domain into 8 colors of blue, 10 green, brown, orange, red, pink, purple, and gray. These eight domains 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 are referred to as categorical areas, hereinafter. The categorical area 18 of "gray" of the chromaticity diagram includes "white" and "black". While the chromaticity 15 diagram omits the categorical area of "yellow", in view of the lightness, the categorical area of "yellow" exists between the categorical area 12 of "green" and the categorical area 13 of "brown". The chromaticity diagram shown in Fig. 2 was made referring to "A categorical color 20 name area of a color space in an aperture color mode and a surface color mode" (Keiji UTIKAWA, et al.: Journal of Society of Illumination, Vol. 77, No. 6, pp 346-354). A human has such a characteristic that even if various sorts of colors, which are mutually different in CIEXYZ values 25 and the like, are concerned, in the event that those colors belong to a certain categorical area on the chromaticity diagram, those colors are categorized and regarded as the

same sort of color. In other words, even if colors, which are located mutually near on the chromaticity diagram, are concerned, in the event that those colors belong to mutually different categorical areas on the chromaticity diagram, those colors are regarded as the different sort of color.

By the way, between RGB values entered to a display and CIEXYZ values of a color displayed on the display, there is provided a relation approximated by the following relational expression.

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_R & X_G & X_B \\ Y_R & Y_G & Y_B \\ Z_R & Z_G & Z_B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R^{\gamma_R} \\ G^{\gamma_G} \\ B^{\gamma_B} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

... (1)

where R, G, B denote RGB values entered to the display, and X_R , Y_R , Z_R denote CIEXYZ values of red, X_G , Y_G , Z_G denote CIEXYZ values of green, and X_B , Y_B , Z_B denote CIEXYZ values of blue. γ_R , γ_G , γ_B denote γ coefficient. X , Y , Z denote CIEXYZ values of an output.

It is known that when a color temperature of the display is changed, the values, which constitute a matrix shown at the left side of the relational expression (1), are changed, and as a result, a constructive ration of CIEXYZ values of a color displayed on the display is changed. This means that even if RGB values entered to the display are constant, a change of the color temperature

causes a color displayed on the display to be seen differently. When the color temperature is decreased, white becomes reddish and blue becomes purplish.

Also a change of a display luminance causes a color to be seen differently. With respect to a relation between a brightness of a color and an appearance of a color, Bezold-Brücke Effect is known. According to Bezold-Brücke Effect, when intensity of the color light (luminance) is increased, a tinge of blue or yellow of chromatic color other than blue, green, yellow and red is increased, and oppositely when intensity of the color light is decreased, a tinge of green or red is increased.

In this manner, even in the event that the same color data (RGB values) are entered to the display, a color displayed on the display is seen differently in accordance with a color temperature of the display and a display luminance of the display. As a result, for example, in the even that an xy chromaticity value of a color displayed on the display according to a certain RGB value X is within a categorical area of blue in a certain color temperature CT_1 , and is located within a categorical area of purple in a different color temperature CT_2 , a user of the display will recognize it as different colors in both the cases. Thus, it is possible to decide whether the present color temperature is the certain color temperature CT_1 or the color temperature CT_2 according as the user recognizes the displayed color as blue or purple when the RGB value X is

entered and displayed. In effect, the RGB value X and the associated display color can be used as a criterion for identifying a color temperature of the display. Likely, also in the event that a luminance is determined, it is 5 possible to determine the luminance, according as a user recognizes a displayed color as what color when a certain RGB value is entered and displayed as a criterion. In the following description, both the RGB value used as the criterion and the figure displayed with the associated 10 display color are referred to as a "color chart" without a distinction therebetween. A display color near the boundary of the mutually adjacent categorical areas is seen extremely differently in accordance with a change of a display setting (for example, a color temperature, a 15 display luminance). Thus, it is recommended that such an RGB value is used as the color chart. Hereinafter, there will be shown examples of the color chart.

As an example of the color chart for determining a color temperature through an appearance of a display color, 20 there is considered a color near the boundary between the categorical areas of, for example, blue and purple. Specifically, a display color of a monochromatic figure wherein an RGB value is $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$ is located in an area of purple in the event that the color 25 temperature is 5000K, and moves to an area of blue at 9300K. Thus, such an RGB value is preferable as the color chart for determining a color temperature.

Figs. 3(A) and 3(B) and Table 1 show a measurement result of a display color in which a color chart wherein an RGB value is $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$ is displayed and the displayed color is measured by a measuring apparatus.

5 Table 1

	X	Y	Z	x	y
5000K	7.11	3.55	28.56	0.181285	0.090515
6500K	13.53	6.54	61.78	0.165302	0.079902
9300K	19.22	9.1	93.51	0.157761	0.074694

X, Y and Z columns of Table 1 show measured values of CIEXYZ values of the respective display colors wherein a 10 color temperature is 5000K, 6500K and 9300K. x and y columns of Table 1 show xy-chromaticity values calculated from the measured values of the CIEXYZ values.

Fig. 3(A) is an xy-chromaticity diagram showing the measurement result in Table 1. Fig. 3(B) is a 15 chromaticity diagram of CIELAB space.

Fig. 3(A) is an xy-chromaticity diagram which is similar to Fig. 2, in which a domain 10 of colors which can be reproduced by a display and a domain 20 of colors which can be perceived by a human are shown in a similar fashion 20 to that of Fig. 2. In Fig. 3(A), the boundary between the categorical area of blue and the categorical area of purple is shown by a straight line L, and positions of the respective display colors wherein a color temperature is

5000K, 6500K and 9300K are shown on the chromaticity diagram with square marks together with the color temperature.

The axis of abscissas and the axis of ordinates of Fig. 3(B) denote a^* value and b^* value of the respective CIELABs, respectively. In Fig. 3(B) a distribution of eleven colors designated by the categorical perception is shown with eleven sorts of marks. Further, in Fig. 3(B), positions of the respective display colors wherein a color temperature is 5000K and 9300K are shown with star marks together with the color temperature.

From the measurement result shown in the chromaticity diagram, it is understood that the display color of the color chart wherein the RGB value is $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$ belongs, in the event that the color temperature is 5000K, to the categorical area of purple, and belongs, in the event that the color temperature is 6500K and 9300K, to the categorical area of blue.

Here, there was conducted an experiment in which the color chart wherein the RGB value is $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$ is displayed and the color temperature of the display is set up to 5000K and 9300K, test subjects raise the color name of the color chart on each of the color temperatures. This experiment result is shown in Table 2.

25

Table 2

Color temperature	Purple	Blue
5000K	6 persons	2 persons
9300K	0 persons	8 persons

As a result of the experiment, in the color temperature 9300K, six of eight persons answered that the color of the above color chart is "blue", and in the color temperature 5000K, six of eight persons answered that the color of the above color chart is "purple". And in both color temperatures 5000K and 9300K, two of eight persons answered that the color of the above color chart is "blue". While the same result cannot be obtained for all the test subjects, 75% persons answered that it is purple in the color temperature 5000K. Thus, in the event that "blue" is selected as the color name of the color chart wherein the RGB value is $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$, it is decided that the color temperature is 9300K or so, and in the event that "purple" is selected as the color name, it is decided that the color temperature is 5000K or so. This way of identification makes it possible to identify the color temperature with accuracy of 75% as to whether the color temperature is 5000K or so or 9300K or so. The use of a plurality of color charts as mentioned above, but not only one color chart, makes it possible to determine the color temperature with greater accuracy.

Further, a color temperature and an RGB balance of the display are controlled in accordance with the display

color of the color chart. This feature makes it possible to perform a more suitable adjustment.

Next, there will be explained embodiments of the present invention. First, there will be explained a first 5 embodiment in which a color temperature of a display is determined to produce a profile.

Fig. 4 is a view showing a first embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

10 A display characteristics recognition apparatus 30, which is constructed in the form of a computer system, comprises: a main frame 31 incorporated thereinto a CPU, a RAM, a hard disk, a communication board, etc.; a CRT display 32 for performing a screen display on a fluorescent screen 32a in accordance with an instruction from the main frame 31; a keyboard 33 for entering character information and an instruction of an operator to the computer system; and a mouse 34 for entering an instruction according to an icon and the like displayed at an arbitrary position on the 15 fluorescent screen 32a. The CRT display 32 is a part of the present embodiment and also an example of a display unit of which display characteristics are recognized in accordance with the present invention.

20

The main frame 31 is provided with a floppy disk loading aperture 31a adapted for loading a floppy disk and a CDROM loading aperture 31b adapted for loading a CDROM 40, and also incorporates therein a floppy disk driver for

driving a loaded floppy disk and a CDROM driver for driving the loaded CDROM 40.

The CDROM 40 stores a display characteristics recognition program. When the CDROM 40 is loaded through 5 the CDROM loading aperture 31b onto the main frame 31, the display characteristics recognition program stored in the CDROM 40 is installed into the hard disk of the computer system by the CDROM driver. When the display characteristics recognition program installed into the hard 10 disk of the computer system is driven, the computer system is operative as a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Therefore, the CDROM 40 storing a display 15 characteristics recognition program corresponds to an embodiment of a display characteristics recognition program storage medium according to the present invention.

Further, the display characteristics recognition program stored in the CDROM 40 is installed in the hard 20 disk of the computer system in accordance with the manner as mentioned above. The hard disk, in which the display characteristics recognition program is installed, also corresponds to an embodiment of a display characteristics. 25 recognition program storage medium according to the present invention.

Furthermore, in the event that the display characteristics recognition program is down loaded onto a

floppy disk or the like, the floppy disk, which stores the display characteristics recognition program thus down loaded, also corresponds to an embodiment of a display characteristics recognition program storage medium

5 according to the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a functional block diagram of a display characteristics recognition apparatus (computer system) which has an appearance shown in Fig. 4.

The display characteristics recognition apparatus shown in Fig. 5 comprises: a color chart data holder 51 for holding RGB data and the like for each of a predetermined number of color charts which is determined in accordance with a distribution and the like of categorical areas; and a color chart data output unit 52 for outputting data held in the color chart data holder 51 to the CRT display 32 shown in Fig. 4. The color chart data output unit 52 is an example of the color chart signal output unit referred to in the present invention. The color chart data holder 51 is, for example, a hard disk and a CDROM. The color chart data output unit 52 includes a so-called display card and a device driver. Here, it is not always needed that the color chart is held in the computer system, but it is acceptable, for example, that the computer system is connected to a network so that a color chart is properly transmitted from a remote server via the network.

The display characteristics recognition apparatus shown in Fig. 5 further comprises a color name input unit

53 for entering a name of a color of a color chart. A user sees a color chart displayed on the CRT display 32 to identify a color of the color chart, and operates the keyboard 33 and the mouse 34 to enter the name of the color.

5 The display characteristics recognition apparatus shown in Fig. 5 furthermore comprises: a characteristic information holder 54 for holding a plurality of characteristic information data which indicate several typical display characteristics (color temperatures) in the 10 form of numerical values; and a display characteristics identification unit 55 for identifying one suitable as a color temperature of the display 32, of the typical color temperatures held in the characteristic information holder 54, in accordance with data of the color chart outputted 15 from the color chart data output unit 52 and the name of the color entered through the color name input unit 53. The display characteristics identification unit 55 is an example of the display characteristics identification means referred to in the present invention and serves to derive 20 characteristic information data from the characteristic information holder 54 in accordance with an identification result. Further, the display characteristics identification unit 55 instructs the color chart data output unit 52 what color chart data is to be outputted in 25 accordance with the name of the color entered through the color name input unit 53, so that an identification of the display characteristics is performed after the color chart

data is outputted.

The display characteristics recognition apparatus shown in Fig. 5 still further comprises a profile producing unit 56 for producing a profile in accordance with 5 characteristic information derived from the display characteristics identification unit 55. The profile producing unit 56 also derives information data, excepting information as to a color temperature, which is necessary for producing the profile, in accordance with a way which 10 will be described later.

Fig. 6 is a flowchart useful for understanding an operating procedure of the first embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. Hereinafter, 15 there will be explained the flowchart shown in Fig. 6 referring to Figs. 7 to 14.

When the operation of the first embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus is initiated, first, a CIEXYZ value (chromaticity value) on each color of 20 red, green and blue, which is information indicative of a range of color reproducible by the color chart data output unit 52, is determined for production of the ICC profile. It is known that while the chromaticity values of red, green and blue greatly depend on a sort of a display such 25 as a CRT and an LCD, but does not almost depend on a type of an apparatus. Therefore, it is sufficient for a determination of the chromaticity values of red, green and

blue that a type of an apparatus is identified. While Fig. 4 shows the CRT display, there is a possibility that as a display of the computer system an LCD and a PDP are used other than the CRT display. According to the first 5 embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus, in step S101, a sort of a display is selected by a user to determine a chromaticity value according to the selected sort of the display.

Fig. 7 is a view showing a display screen 10 displayed on the display in the step S101 in Fig. 6.

Fig. 7 shows a display screen 32 on which a character string 60 such as "Is this display CRT or LCD ?" and "Please push button" is displayed, and in addition a button 61 for selecting the CRT and a button 62 for 15 selecting the LCD. Click of these buttons 61 and 62 may select the sort of the display.

Fig. 7 shows the display screen by way of example. When it is required that chromaticity values are determined with greater accuracy, it is acceptable that a user selects 20 a type of an apparatus and designates a maker. Further, a dependency on a maker for a chromaticity value is greater on a case where an LCD is concerned as compared with a case where a CRT is concerned. In view of this matter, only in

case of the LCD, a user may additionally designate a maker. Furthermore, in Windows 95 (registered trademark), there is provided an item storing information as to a display in a registry such as

5 HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/System/CurrentControlSet/Services/class/monitor/0000. Thus, in order to meet Windows 95, it is acceptable that this registry is retrieved to derive the display name and it is determined whether the display is a CRT, an LCD or a PDP.

10 When a sort of a display is selected by a user, a color temperature is determined in steps S102 to S106 shown in Fig. 6 in accordance with the principle of the present invention as mentioned above. First, the process goes to the step S102 in which data held in the color chart data holder 51 shown in Fig. 5 is derived by the color chart data output unit 52 so that the associated color chart is 15 displayed on the display.

Fig. 8 is a view showing a state that a color chart is displayed on a display.

20 Fig. 8 shows the display 32 on which a character string 70 such as "What color do you see about this color ? Push button of color you see, please" is displayed at the top, a square color chart 71 is displayed at the center, and eleven buttons 72 for selecting a color name are 25 displayed on the bottom. When any one of eleven buttons 72 is selectively clicked, a color name according to the color chart 71 is selected and entered to the color name input

unit 53 shown in Fig. 5 (step S103). It is noted that only a part of these eleven buttons 72 is active in accordance with a sort of the displayed color chart. The reason why this is so is that for example, a color, which belongs to a categorical area of blue, may change to a color of the adjacent categorical area (green, white, gray, black, blue, purple), but may be difficult to be a color of a quite different categorical area (pink, red, yellow, brown). Thus, in the even that only a part of colors is active, the number of choices is reduced whereby a user's labor for choices is reduced.

~~As an input way of a color name, there is considered a method of entering an arbitrary color name by a user through a keyboard. In this case, there is prepared a dictionary indicative of a correspondence between the respective colors represented by the various color names and the categorical colors of the eleven colors. Thus, when the user enters any color name, the entered color name is rounded into anyone of the categorical colors of the eleven colors, and it is understood that the one categorical color is selected. Further, there is considered an alternative method in which a series of color charts is displayed in such a manner that a series of colors across the adjacent two categorical areas is displayed, and a color chart corresponding to the boundary of the adjacent two categorical areas is selected.~~

Fig. 9 is a view of a screen on which a series of

color charts are displayed to select a color chart corresponding to the boundary.

SNP AS

Fig. 9 shows five color charts 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84. Display colors of these five color charts 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84 are a series of colors from green to blue. Here, it is assumed that the more left side of the figure a color is nearer green, and the more right side of the figure a color is nearer blue. In the upper portion of Fig. 9, there is shown a character string 85 such as "Following colors change from green to blue. Which do you see green from ?". In response to this question, a user clicks anyone selected among the five color charts 80, 81, 82, 83 and 84. This click is equivalent to the matter that as color names of the respective color charts at left side from the clicked color chart, green is entered and as color names of color charts excepting the former color charts, blue is entered.

By the way, it is preferable that the periphery of those color charts is black or gray.

Fig. 10(A) is a view showing a case where the periphery of the color chart is black, and Fig. 10(B) is a view showing a case where the periphery of the color chart is gray.

In Fig. 10(A), a color chart 90 is solely displayed at the center of a background 91 of the whole black. In Fig. 10(B), the color chart 90 is displayed with an edge 92 of gray.

As shown in Fig. 10(A), in the event that the color chart is solely displayed on the black background, the black background has no color interfering with a perception for colors. Thus, it is possible for a user to 5 determine a color name in accordance with only an impression as to a display color of the color chart. Further, in this case, there is no occurrence of a reflection (leaked light on the display) by another color. Thus, it is possible for a user to observe a pure color of 10 the color chart displayed on the display.

Also as shown in Fig. 10(B), even in the event that the color chart having the gray edge is displayed on the black background, since gray is achromatic color, it is possible for a user to determine a color name in accordance 15 with only an impression as to a display color of the color chart.

By the way, in the event that a figure of monochrome is displayed on the black background, a person has sometimes an illusion that an aperture is provided on a 20 surface of the display and the figure appears on the inner part of the aperture of the display, but the figure is not appended on the surface of the display. This is caused by the fact that the display performs a luminous display for colors. The looking way that the figure looks like being 25 appended on the surface of the display is referred to a surface color mode for display. The looking way that an aperture is provided on a surface of the display and the

figure appears on the inner part of the aperture of the display is referred to as an aperture color mode.

When the color chart is displayed as shown in Fig. 10(A), in some case, there is offered the aperture color mode, and in some case, there is offered the surface color mode. On the other hand, when the color chart is displayed as shown in Fig. 10(B), it is known that there is always offered the surface color mode ("A categorical color name area of a color space in an aperture color mode and a surface color mode" Keiji UTIKAWA, et al.: Journal of Society of Illumination, Vol. 77, No. 6, pp 346-354). Even if display colors mutually having the same CIEXYZ value are concerned, it happens that an establishment of the different mode causes the display colors to be recognized mutually different colors. In order that display characteristics of a display unit is recognized in accordance with appearances for a color of a color chart so that looking ways for the respective display colors in a plurality of display units are matched by CMS and the like, there is a need to unify modes as to looking ways for a color of a color chart. In the event that as a display unit in which a match between display colors is intended, only a display is considered, unity to a color chart display format of either Fig. 10(A) or Fig. 10(B) involves no problem. However, in the event that a match between appearances on a printed matter and appearances on a display is intended, since appearances for a color of a

printed matter is always concerned with the surface color mode, there is a need to unify also appearances on a display to the surface color mode. In this case, it is preferable that the display format as shown in Fig. 10(B) 5 is adopted.

In this manner, when the color name is selected in the step S103 of Fig. 6, the process goes to a step S104 in which it is determined whether a selection of the color name is finished over all the color charts. In the event 10 that it is decided that a selection of the color name is finished over all the color charts, the process goes to a step S105 in which a color chart to be next displayed is determined, and returns to the step S102. Thereafter, the steps S102 to 104 are repeated.

15 In the step S104, in the event that it is decided that a selection of the color name is finished over all the color charts, the process goes to a step S106 in which display characteristics of the display is identified by the display characteristics identification unit 55 so that 20 characteristics information according to the identification result is derived from the characteristic information holder 54.

Fig. 11 is an illustration useful for 25 understanding an example of a procedure in which a color chart is selected to decide display characteristics.

Fig. 11 shows a procedure that display characteristics is classified into seven sorts by five

sorts of color chart, in which to decide display characteristics of one display two or three color charts are used.

The procedure for the classification proceeds from 5 the left to the right of the figure. First, the first color chart is displayed (S102_1) in which as a color name of the first color chart blue or green is selected. Then, the second color chart (S102_2) or the third color chart (S102_3) is displayed in accordance with the selected color 10 name. As a color name of the second color chart blue or purple is selected. Then, the fourth color chart (S102_4) or the fifth color chart (S102_5) is displayed in accordance with the selected color name. The display characteristics is determined as the first display 15 characteristics or the second display characteristics in accordance with the selection of the color name of the fourth color chart. And the display characteristics is determined as the third display characteristics or the fourth display characteristics in accordance with the 20 selection of the color name of the fifth color chart. As the color name of the third color chart, red, brown or orange is selected. Then the display characteristics is determined as the fifth, sixth or seventh display characteristics in accordance with the selection of the 25 color name of the third color chart.

Thus, a chromaticity value representative of a color temperature is derived from the characteristic

information holder 54 shown in Fig. 5 in form of the characteristic information in accordance with a determination result.

In order to determine the color temperature with greater accuracy in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure, some ten to several tens or more of color charts are needed. However, a color temperature of the display can be set up to the typical color temperatures such as 5000K, 6500K, 9300K. For example, the color temperature of 5000K corresponds to a color temperature under illumination of the general fluorescent light. In the event that a color match supposing the general environment is performed, it often happens that a color temperature of the display is set up to 5000K. However, a color displayed on the display is determined in accordance with a combination of a main body of the display and a control side (for example, a graphic card of a personal computer). For this reason, a value of the color temperature set up onto the display is simply associated with an accuracy of standards or so.

Thus, even if 6500K is set up onto the display, it happens indeed, when the display is combined with the graphic card, that 5000K is established, or 8000K is established. In the event that it is sufficient to determine as to whether the color temperature set up onto the display is matched with an actual color temperature, it is possible to determine the color temperature of the display with a few color charts with great accuracy in such a manner that a series

of color charts, in which the typical color temperatures such as 5000K, 6500K, 9300K are distinguished from one another, are used to classify the display characteristics, so that any one of the typical color temperatures is derived.

Fig. 11 shows a state that display characteristics is classified into seven sorts. Here, it is noted that there is no need that the color temperature according to the seven sorts of display characteristics are mutually differentiated. For example, in the even that an RGB value of the second color chart is the above-mentioned RGB value $(R, G, B) = (75, 0, 255)$, a possibility that the color temperature is properly distinguished through appearances of the second color chart by a person is about 75%. Thus, it is desired that the distinction is modified in accordance with selection of a color name of the color chart.

In the step S106, when the display characteristics of the display is determined to derive the color temperature, the process goes to step S107 and step S108 in which γ characteristics is identified. In the step S107, an image for identification of γ characteristics is displayed on the display.

Fig. 12 is a view showing images for discriminating γ characteristics.

Fig. 12 shows a display 32 on which displayed are a bar image 101 wherein black and white lines are

alternately repeated and a plurality of concentration gray images 102 wherein they are mutually different in lightness. Further, above the images 101 and 102, there is displayed a character string 103 such as "Please select concentration image you see brightness which is the same as bar image".
5 Thus, a user selects from among the plurality of concentration gray images 102 a concentration gray image on which the user see brightness which is the same as bar image 101 (step S108 in Fig. 6).

10 Fig. 13 is a graph showing an example of input-output characteristics of a display.

The axis of abscissas denotes an RGB value of an input and the axis of ordinates denotes the normalized output. When the RGB value of the input is expressed by X, and the output is expressed by Y, the curve M
15 representative of input-output characteristics of a display is approximated by $Y = X^\gamma$.

The bar image 101 shown in Fig. 12 corresponds to the output 0.5. When the RGB value of the concentration gray image 102, which is the same as the bar image 101 in brightness, is given by $(R, G, B) = (N, N, N)$, the relational expression represented by the following approximate expression consists.
20
25

$$0.5 = \left(\frac{N}{255} \right)^\gamma$$

... (2)

From the approximate expression (2), it is possible to calculate the γ coefficient. For example, when a user sees the bar image as it is the same as the concentration gray image, of which the RGB value is given by (172, 172, 172), in brightness, $0.5 = (172/255)^{\gamma} = 0.6745^{\gamma}$ is solved to obtain $\gamma \approx 1.75$. Thus, the γ coefficient is ≈ 1.75 .

In this manner, in the steps S101 to S108 of Fig. 10 6, it is possible to obtain the above-mentioned information necessary for producing an ICC profile. Thereafter the process goes to a step S109 in which an ICC profile is produced in accordance with the information thus obtained, so that the ICC profile suitable for the display used by 15 the user is provided.

Fig. 14 is a view showing a concrete example of an ICC profile.

The ICC profile consists of, as mentioned above, the profile header 1, the tagged element data 2 and the tag table 3. An explanation of the profile header 1 and the tag table 3 will be omitted to avoid the redundancy.

The tagged element data 2 shown in Fig. 14 stores data related to the display itself as well as data of CIEXYZ values of white as the above-mentioned standard 25 white information. All the data related to the display itself are character strings. A character string such as "Fujitsu" is stored in a desc tag 110, a character string

such as "Sample" is stored in a dmnd tag 111 and a dmdd tag 112, and a character string such as "Copyright (C) Fujitsu LTD. and Fujitsu Laboratories LTD. 1998" is stored in a cpnt tag 113.

5 As mentioned above, in the tagged element data 2, a CIEXYZ value of white is stored in a wtpt tag 114 with a value normalized in such a manner that the CIEXYZ value of white is given by $Y = 1.0$. Fig. 14 shows an example in which as a color temperature of the display, 8500K is determined. An xy chromaticity value of 8500K is given by $(x, y) = (0.29, 0.31)$, and the CIEXYZ value (X, Y, Z) where $Y = 1.0$ is calculated in accordance with the following equations.

10

15
$$X = Y (x/y) = 1.0 \times (0.29/0.31) = 0.935 \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

$$Y = 1.0 \quad \dots \quad (4)$$

20
$$Z = Y (1 - x - y) / y = 1.0 \times (1 - 0.29 - 0.31) / 0.31 = 1.290 \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

The values obtained through calculation by these equations (3), (4) and (5) are stored in the ICC profile. In the ICC profile, the CIEXYZ value is expressed in 16 bits (code 1 bit; integer part 7 bits; decimal part 8 bits). The ICC profile shown in Fig. 14 stores, as the CIEXYZ value, (0.92955, 1.00000, 1.262257).

Further, as mentioned above, in the tagged element data 2, as information indicative of a range of colors

reproducible by an output unit, values in which CIEXYZ
values of red, green and blue are normalized, are stored in
an rXYZ tag 115, a gXYZ tag 116 and a bXYZ tag 117,
respectively. Fig. 14 shows an example in which
5 information indicative of an range of colors reproducible
by a CRT display is stored. As mentioned above, the range
of colors reproducible by a CRT display is represented in
form of a triangle area on the xy chromaticity diagram.
The xy chromaticity value of the top of the triangle area
10 is given by the substantially constant value as set forth
below regardless of makers.

Red : $(x, y) = (0.63, 0.34)$
Green : $(x, y) = (0.29, 0.61)$
15 Blue : $(x, y) = (0.14, 0.07)$

When values, wherein CIEXYZ values of red, green
and blue are normalized so as to be given by $Y = 1.0$, are
calculated, the following values are obtained.

20 Red : $(X, Y, Z) = (1.85, 1.00, 0.09)$
Green : $(X, Y, Z) = (0.48, 1.00, 0.16)$
Blue : $(X, Y, Z) = (2.00, 1.00, 11.3)$

By the way, it is needed that the sum of CIEXYZ
values of red, green and blue to be essentially determined
25 is equal to a CIEXYZ value of white. For this reason,
coefficients for red, green and blue to determine the
essential respective CIEXYZ values from the provisionally
calculated respective CIEXYZ values are given by a, b and c,
the following equation consists.

$$a \times \text{red} + b \times \text{green} + c \times \text{blue} = \text{white} \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

Since X, Y and Z are independent of one another,
the equation (6) consists on each of X, Y and Z. Therefore,
5 the following equations are obtained.

$$1. 85a + 0.48b + 2.0c = 0.93 \quad \dots \quad (7)$$

$$a + b + c = 1.0 \quad \dots \quad (8)$$

$$0.09a + 0.16b + 1.13c = 1.26 \quad \dots \quad (9)$$

10 When the equations (7), (8) and (9) are solved in
form of simultaneous equations, the following values are
obtained.

$$a = 0.22, b = 0.68, c = 0.10$$

15 Accordingly, the essential CIEXYZ values of red,
green and blue are determined as follow.

$$\text{Red} : (X, Y, Z) = (1.85, 1.00, 0.09) * 0.22 = (0.40, 0.22, 0.02)$$

$$20 \text{Green} : (X, Y, Z) = (0.48, 1.00, 0.16) * 0.68 = (0.33, 0.68, 0.11)$$

$$\text{Blue} : (X, Y, Z) = (2.00, 1.00, 1.13) * 0.10 = (0.20, 0.10, 0.13)$$

25 When those CIEXYZ values are stored in the ICC
profile, stored are values which are those CIEXYZ values
multiplied by the ratio of the CIEXYZ value of white to the
CIEXYZ value $(X, Y, Z) = (0.9642, 1.0, 0.8251)$ corresponding to the color temperature of the light source
of D50. Finally, values to be stored in the rXYZ tag, the
30 gXYZ tag and the bXYZ tag are determined as follow:

Value of rXYZ tag = (0. 40 * (0. 9642 / 0. 9295),
0. 22 * (1. 0 / 1. 0), 0. 02 * (0. 8251 / 1. 29)) =
(0. 41, 0. 22, 0. 012)
Value of gXYZtag = (0. 33 * (0. 9642 / 0. 9295),
5 0. 68 * (1. 0 / 1. 0), 0. 11 * (0. 8251 / 1. 29) = (0.
0. 34, 0. 68, 0. 07)
Value of bXYZtag = (0. 20 * (0. 9642 / 0. 9295),
0. 1 * (1. 0 / 1. 0), 1. 13 * (0. 8251 / 1. 29) = (0.
. 21, 0. 10, 0. 74)

10 It is noted that similar to the above-mentioned
CIEXYZ value for white, those values are affected by the
operation error and the quantization error at the time of
the storage of the profile. Thus, the values stored in the
profile shown in Fig. 14 are slightly different from the
15 calculated values.

20 In the tagged element data 2, γ characteristics for
red, green and blue are stored in an rTRC tag 118, a gTRC
tag 119 and a bTRC tag 120, respectively. Here, as γ
characteristics, the respective gradation values in 0 input,
25 1/2 input and the maximum input are stored. The gradation
values are stored in form of 16 bits of value where the
maximum value is 65535. Fig. 14 shows an example in which
 γ coefficient is identified 2.0. In this case, the
gradation values for red, green and blue are as follows:

25 Gradation value where 0 input = 0
Gradation value where 1/2 input = $(0.5^{2.0}) \times 65535$
= 16384
Gradation value where the maximum input = 65535
Those values are stored in the rTRC tag 118, the
30 gTRC tag 119 and the bTRC tag 120.

Thus, when the ICC profile is produced in the step S109 in Fig. 6, an operation of the display characteristics recognition apparatus is terminated.

Next, there will be described alternative 5 embodiments of the present invention hereinafter. In the following explanation, redundant description will be omitted and only different points from the first embodiment of the present invention will be described.

The second embodiment is substantially the same as 10 the first embodiment except for the point that while the first embodiment is to produce the profile, according to the second embodiment, a plurality of profiles are previously prepared and held, and the optimum profile for display characteristics of a display is selected from among 15 the plurality of profiles.

Fig. 15 is a functional block diagram showing a second embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

In comparison with Fig. 5, the profile producing 20 unit 56 is replaced by a profile selection unit 120 and a profile holding unit 121 for holding a plurality of profiles. The profile selection unit 120 selects one profile from among the plurality of profiles held by the profile holding unit 121 in accordance with the 25 characteristic information obtained from the characteristic information holder 54 by the display characteristics identification unit 55. In other words, it is not always

necessary that the characteristic information held in the characteristic information holder 54 is associated with the profile held in the profile holding unit 121. The profile selection unit 120 selects a suitable profile in accordance 5 with a criterion such that a value indicative of display characteristics is close.

According to the first and second embodiments of the present invention, a display of the color chart and a selection of the color name are repeated over a plurality 10 of number of times. However, according to a display characteristics recognition apparatus of the present invention, it is acceptable that a series of color charts are displayed at a time on a display, and color names of the respective color charts are entered on a batch basis.

15 Next, there will be described a third embodiment of the present invention. While the first embodiment of the present invention is to determine a color temperature as display characteristics, the third embodiment of the present invention is to determine a display luminance as 20 display characteristics.

Fig. 16 is a functional block diagram showing a third embodiment of a display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

In comparison with Fig. 5, the display 25 characteristics identification unit 55, the characteristic information holder 54 and the profile producing unit 56 are replaced by a luminance identification unit 130 for

identifying luminance in accordance with data of a color chart outputted from the color chart data output unit 52 and a color name entered to the color name input unit 53.

Fig. 17 is a flowchart useful for understanding an operating procedure of the third embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus according to the present invention.

According to the third embodiment of the display characteristics recognition apparatus, first, the color chart based on the above-mentioned Bezold-Brücke Effect is displayed on the display (step S201). As mentioned above, according to the Bezold-Brücke Effect, it is known that as intensity of the color light (luminance) is increased, a tinge of blue or yellow of chromatic color other than blue, green, yellow and red is increased, and oppositely as intensity of the color light is decreased, a tinge of green or red is increased. For example, as a color light of 600 nm looking like orange is increased in lightness, a tinge of yellow is increased and finally does not look like orange (cf. "Color Science Dictionary" published by Color Society of Japan, pp 222). For this reason, according to the third embodiment, there is used such a color chart that a color near the boundary between the yellow area and the orange area in the categorical color perception is displayed.

Fig. 18 is a view showing a state that a color chart is displayed in the third embodiment.

Fig. 18 shows a display 32 on which three color charts 140 at the center of a display screen. These color charts 140 are concerned with such a color chart that a display color is over an range from a yellow area to an orange area in the categorical color perception. Those color charts 140 are ones in which a relationship between a display luminance and an appearance of orange is previously determined through a subjective estimation experience. The left color chart of the three color charts 140 is concerned with a color chart on which persons over 50 % recognized it as orange in the display of 100 cd/m^2 , and likely the center color chart and the right color chart are concerned with a color chart on which persons over 50 % recognized it as orange in 150 cd/m^2 and 200 cd/m^2 , respectively.

Above the color charts 140, there is displayed a character string 141 such as "Please see the following three colors. What color do you see orange ?". Below the color charts 140, there is displayed a character string 142 such as "Please click color you see orange". Thus, a user 20 clicks any of the color charts to select one (step S202 in Fig. 17).

In the step S202 in Fig. 17, when the selection by a user is performed, the process goes to a step S203 in which a display luminance is identified in accordance with 25 a selection result. In this identification, a strict value of the display luminance is not determined, but it is determined as to which group the display luminance belongs

to among groups (for example, three groups of 150 cd/m² or more, 100 cd/m² or more, and less than 100 cd/m²) of display luminance suitably set up.

Incidentally, while Fig. 18 shows a state that the plurality of color charts are simultaneously displayed, it is acceptable that the plurality of color charts are sequentially displayed one by one.

Hereinafter, there will be described an embodiment of a display characteristics adjusting apparatus according to the present invention.

The embodiment of a display characteristics adjusting apparatus is constructed with the computer system shown in Fig. 4. The CDROM 40 shown in Fig. 4 is an example of a display characteristics adjusting program storage medium referred to in the present invention. The display 32 is a part of the display characteristics adjusting apparatus and is also a subject to be adjusted in display characteristics by the display characteristics adjusting apparatus. In the display characteristics adjusting apparatus, similar to the display characteristics recognition apparatus, color charts are displayed on the display 32.

Fig. 19 is a view showing a state that color charts are displayed by a display characteristics adjusting apparatus.

Fig. 19 shows a display 32 on which two color charts 151 and 152 are displayed. Above those color charts

151 and 152, there is displayed a character string 153 such as "Please adjust red of display so that you see following two colors like that right side color is red and left side color is brown".

5 Added to the general display are various control mechanisms for altering a color display of the display, such as contrast, brightness, color temperature, RGB level, etc. The display 32 shown in Fig. 19 is provided with setting buttons 154 for altering a color display. An 10 operation of the setting buttons 154 by a user such that a color display is adjusted in accordance with an appearance of a display color of a color chart makes it possible to adjust display characteristics of the display properly. In other words, it is possible to match the display 15 characteristics of the display to display characteristics of another display unit, and as a result it is possible to match appearance of colors of various types of display units, for example, a display of a personal computer connected to a network, a liquid crystal screen of a note 20 type of personal computer carried, and a liquid crystal projector for a presentation.

In the event that a more strict adjustment for the display is needed, it is desired that a software for adjustment of a color display of the display is utilized.

25 Fig. 20 is a view showing a display screen in a case where an adjustment of the display is performed utilizing such a software.

On such a display screen, in addition to color charts 151 and 152 which are similar to those in Fig. 19, a slide bar 160 is displayed below the color charts 151 and 152. Here, an operation of the slide bar 160 by a user makes it possible to adjust a display intensity of red. Of course, an alternation of sorts of a color chart or the like makes it possible to perform an adjustment for green and blue as well as red.

Some of the recent display boards have a function capable of adjusting R,G,B displays of the display by a display driver. In case of such a display board, it is acceptable to adjust a display using such a function.

As mentioned above, according to a display characteristics recognition apparatus of the present invention, it is possible even for a general user having no color measuring apparatus as mentioned above to determine display characteristics of a display unit. A display characteristics recognition program stored in a display characteristics recognition program storage medium of the present invention causes a computer system to operate as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus. Further, the computer system of the present invention serves as such a display characteristics recognition apparatus.

Further, according to a display characteristics adjusting apparatus of the present invention, it is possible even for a general user as mentioned above to

adjust display characteristics of the display unit. A display characteristics adjusting program stored in a display characteristics adjusting program storage medium causes a computer system to operate as such a display 5 characteristics adjusting apparatus. Further, the computer system of the present invention serves as such a display characteristics adjusting apparatus.

While the present invention has been described with reference to the particular illustrative embodiments, it is 10 not to be restricted by those embodiments but only by the appended claims. It is to be appreciated that those skilled in the art can change or modify the embodiments without departing from the scope and spirit of the present invention.